



HIGHLAND SANITA

Palmetto Nurse

South Carolina Board of Nursing

Vol 3 • No 4

Board Vacancies
Legislative Update

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SPRING 2008

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Mission of the Board: The mission of the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina is the protection of public health, safety, and welfare by assuring safe and competent practice of nursing.

This mission is accomplished by assuring safe initial practice as well as continuing competency in the practice of nursing and by promoting nursing excellence in the areas of education and practice. The Board licenses qualified individuals as licensed practical nurses, registered nurses or advanced practice registered nurses. Complaints against nurses are investigated and disciplinary action taken when necessary. Schools of nursing are surveyed and approved to ensure quality education for future nurses.

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The Palmetto Nurse is published quarterly by the South Carolina Board of Nursing. Each issue is distributed to every actively licensed LPN, RN, APRN, as well as to nurse employers and nurse educators. Nurses, students, and professionals from healthcare organizations turn to this publication for updates on clinical practices, information on government affairs initiatives, to discover what best practices are being implemented, and for insight into how healthcare providers are facing today's challenges.

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Congressional District 2

Sylvia A. Whiting, PhD, APRN-BC,
Congressional District 1

Vacancies —[See Section 40-33-10(A) of the Nurse Practice Act]
Registered Nurse - Congressional District 4

Licensed Practical Nurse - Region I
(Congressional Districts 1, 2, & 3)
One Public Member

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ADVERTISING

Reach a highly targeted market of licensed nurses at all levels of practice, nursing students, as well as healthcare employers, educators, and regulators.

Present your message in a well-read, professional publication tailored directly to those involved in healthcare.

Gain name recognition in the primary care community.

Advertisements contained herein are not necessarily endorsed by the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation - Board of Nursing. The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject advertisements for the Palmetto Nurse.

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OFFICE LOCATION/HOURS OF OPERATION

The Board of Nursing is located at Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Suite 202, Columbia, SC 29210. Directions to our office can be found on our Web site — www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/

Our mailing address is LLR - South Carolina Board of Nursing, Post Office Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211-2367.

Our normal business hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our offices are closed for holidays designated by the State.

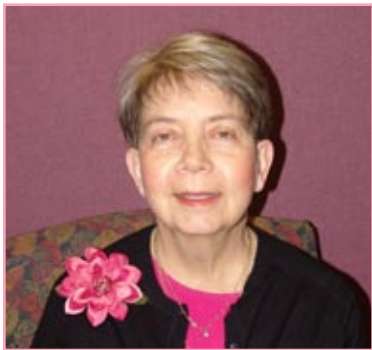
DESIGNATED STATE HOLIDAYS

FOR REMAINDER OF 2008

September 1	Labor Day
November 11	Veterans Day
November 27 - 28	Thanksgiving Day
December 25 - 26	Christmas

VISIT US ON OUR WEB SITE: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/

The Board of Nursing Web site contains the Nurse Practice Act, Regulations, Compact Information, Advisory Opinions, Licensee Lookup, Disciplinary Actions, and other information.



From the Desk of the ADMINISTRATOR

By: Joan K. Bainer, RN, MN, NE BC, Board Administrator

The Board of Nursing now has capabilities to Video Teleconference (VTC) all Board activities such as “Bits of Legal Aspects from the Board,” committee meetings, Board meetings, etc.

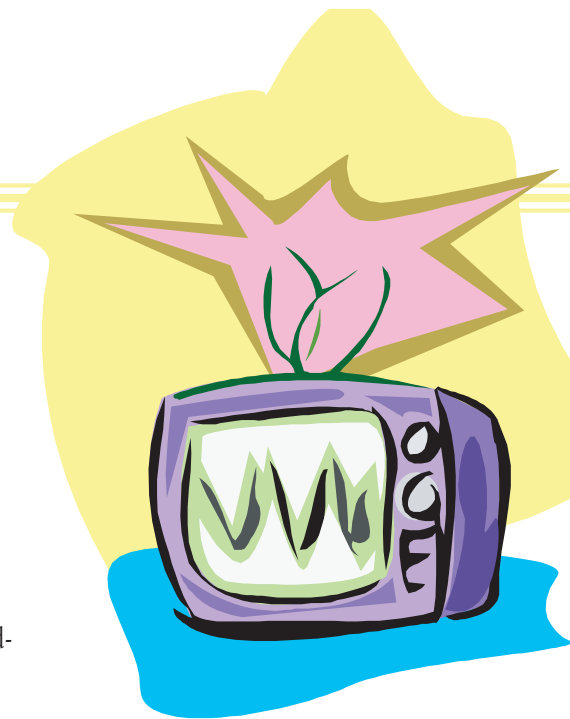
This capability will provide better service to the general community, increased access to Board information and a more informed licensee.

In addition, the attendees of committees will reduce their travel time as the attendee will travel to the nearest “bridge” at universities, colleges and hospitals instead of traveling to Columbia.

This effort is a very exciting time for the Board of Nursing as we will be mapping out dates and times and “bridge ports” for the 2009 calendar year. The planning for the use of the VTC has been quite intense as the Board goes “live.”

We will be doing test sites prior to all activities in conjunction with the computer experts at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

Stay tuned for more information. Should you have any questions, please call Joan Bainer at 803-896-4550.



We welcome Lisa Williams-Holloway, RN, MSM, MSN/ED as Nurse Consultant for Practice to the Board of Nursing Team. Please look for more information on Lisa in future issues of the Palmetto Nurse.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Below you will find two bills that passed this legislative session. These bills make changes to the Nurse Practice Act.

ACT #194

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 40-33-32, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO NURSING LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO REVISE THE TYPE OF DOCUMENT THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR PROOF OF IDENTITY AND AGE; TO AMEND SECTION 40-33-34, RELATING TO THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE AUTHORIZED FOR VARIOUS LEVELS OF NURSING AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIED ACTS OF NURSING, SO AS TO CLARIFY INFORMATION THAT MUST BE PROVIDED BY NURSES WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY WHEN WRITING PRESCRIPTIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 40-33-35, RELATING TO LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR OUT-OF-STATE NURSES, SO AS TO REVISE THE TYPE OF DOCUMENT THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR PROOF OF IDENTITY AND AGE AND TO CLARIFY THAT CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO LICENSURE TO PRACTICE AS AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE; TO AMEND SECTION

40-33-36, RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF NURSING LICENSES, INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS FOR TEMPORARY AND LIMITED LICENSES, SO AS TO ALSO APPLY THESE REQUIREMENTS TO TEMPORARY AND LIMITED LICENSES OF



ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES; AND TO AMEND SECTION 40-33-40, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS FOR DEMONSTRATING COMPETENCY FOR INITIAL AND RENEWAL LICENSURE, SO AS TO CLARIFY CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AND TO APPLY SOME OF THESE REQUIREMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS SEEKING

REINSTATEMENT OF A LAPSED OR INACTIVE STATUS AND TO LICENSURE OF A PERSON WHO IS AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE OUT-OF-STATE. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

Required identification for licensure

SECTION 1. Section 40-33-32(B)(4) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 225 of 2004, is amended to read:

“(4) submits satisfactory proof of identity and age demonstrating that the applicant is eighteen years of age or older;”

Information to be provided on prescriptions

SECTION 2. Section 40-33-34(F)(1) (d) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 225 of 2004, is amended to read:

“(d) must be signed by the NP, CNM, or CNS with the prescriber’s identification number assigned by the board and all prescribing numbers required by law. The prescription form must include the name, address, and phone number of the NP, CNM, or CNS and physician and must comply with the provisions of Section 39-24-40. A prescription must designate a specific number of refills and may not include a nonspecific refill indication;”

Requirements for licensure by endorsement

SECTION 3. Section 40-33-35 of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 225 of 2004, is amended to read:

“Section 40-33-35. An applicant for a license who currently holds or has held an authorization to practice nursing in another state or jurisdiction in this country or territory or dependency of the United States may be licensed by the board by endorsement, without examination, if the applicant:

- (1) submits a completed application on a form provided by the board;
- (2) submits one 2” x 2” photograph signed and dated;
- (3) submits the appropriate application fee;
- (4) submits satisfactory proof of identity and age demonstrating that the applicant is eighteen years of age or older;
- (5) submits a copy of the applicant’s social security card or permanent resident card; a resident alien who does not have a social security number must have an alien identification number;
- (6) has not committed any acts that are grounds for disciplinary action;
- (7) has completed all requirements for graduation from a nursing education program approved by the state or jurisdiction in this country or territory or dependency of the United States in which the program is located, as evidenced by a graduation transcript or other proof of education satisfactorily demonstrating graduation as determined by the board. The applicant’s education must be equivalent to that required in this state at the time of the applicant’s initial licensure in the other jurisdiction. An applicant shall comply with these educational requirements for basic RN licensure and satisfy the requirements of Section 40-33-34 to practice as an APRN;
- (8) submits verification of current or prior authorization to practice as a nurse in another state or jurisdiction or territory or dependency of the

United States and that a license:

- (a) has been issued on the basis of passing the State Board Test Pool Examination before 1983 or the appropriate National Council Licensure Examination;
- (b) was not issued on the basis of passing the State Board Test Pool Examination before 1983 or the appropriate National Council Licensure Examination, in which case the applicant shall demonstrate not fewer than three years of successful practice as a licensed nurse in another state or jurisdiction in this country without disciplinary action that resulted in restriction of practice, including probation;
- (9) evidence of continued competency as provided in this chapter; and
- (10) whose native language is not English, submits evidence of passing the Test of English as First Language (TOEFL), Test of Written English (TWE), and Test of Spoken English (TSE) offered by the TOEFL/TSE Services or another service approved by the board.”

Temporary and limited licenses

SECTION 4. Section 40-33-36(D) of the 1976 Code, as added by Act 225 of 2004, is amended to read:

“(D)(1) The board may issue a temporary or limited license to practice nursing, in accordance with this subsection, or as may be provided for in regulation, to an applicant:

- (a) for licensure as an advanced practice registered nurse, a registered nurse, or as a licensed practical nurse, if the applicant’s preliminary credentials have been approved and whose fee has been paid;
- (b) for licensure by endorsement as an advanced practice registered nurse, a registered nurse, or as a licensed practical nurse, for up to sixty days, unless further authorized by the

administrator or designee, pending completion and approval of the application, if the applicant has filed an application, paid the fee, and has produced a valid license to practice in another jurisdiction;

- (c) while participating in a refresher course for up to ninety days, unless further authorized by the administrator or designee, when the applicant is seeking reinstatement of a lapsed or an inactive license or licensure by endorsement and must submit evidence of nursing competence before returning to nursing practice.
- (2) An applicant who has failed the licensing examination is not eligible for a temporary permit to practice nursing.
- (3) The board or department may immediately cancel a temporary permit or license that was issued based upon false, fraudulent, or misleading information provided by an applicant.”

Competency requirements

SECTION 5. Section 40-33-40 of the 1976 Code, as amended by Act 225 of 2004, is further amended to read:

“Section 40-33-40. (A) Demonstration of competency for initial licensure requires documented evidence of the following:

- (1) graduation from an approved nursing education program; and
- (2) successful completion of the NCLEX appropriate to the area of licensure and appropriate credentials for advanced practice registered nursing licensure, if applicable.
- (B) Demonstration of competency for:
- (1) renewal of an active license biennially requires documented evidence of at least one of the following requirements during the licensure period:
 - (a) completion of thirty contact hours from a continuing education provider

recognized by the board;

(b) maintenance of certification or recertification by a national certifying body recognized by the board;

(c) completion of an academic program of study in nursing or a related field recognized by the board; or

(d) verification of competency and the number of hours practiced, as evidenced by employer certification on a form approved by the board;

(2) reinstatement from lapsed or inactive status of five years or less requires documented evidence of at least one of the following within the preceding two years:

(a) completion of thirty contact hours from a continuing education provider recognized by the board and successful completion of a course in legal aspects approved by the board;

(b) maintenance of certification or recertification by a national certifying body recognized by the board;

(c) completion of an academic program of study in nursing or a related field recognized by the board;

(d) verification of competency and the number of hours practiced, as evidenced by employer certification on a form approved by the board; or

(e) successful completion of a refresher course approved by the board;

(3) reinstatement from lapsed or inactive status of more than five years requires documented evidence of at least one of the following within the preceding two years:

(a) successful completion of a refresher course approved by the board; or

(b) successful completion of the NCLEX appropriate to the area of licensure.

(C) Demonstration of competency for reinstatement from lapsed or inactive status or licensure of a person who holds a current authorization to practice in another state or

jurisdiction in this country or territory or dependency of the United States requires documented evidence of at least one of the requirements in subsection (B) during the preceding two years.

(D) Failure to comply with applicable continued competency requirements results in nonrenewal or denial of the application. A licensee shall maintain all documented evidence of compliance for at least four years. This documented evidence must be presented by the licensee within five business days of request by a representative of the department acting in its discretion or in accordance with a random audit of a sample of licensees. Failure to provide satisfactory documented evidence of compliance within the prescribed time results in the immediate temporary suspension or cancellation of the license pending compliance with all requirements for licensure and until order of the board.”

ACT #345
AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 40-33-25 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION MAY REQUIRE STATE AND NATIONAL CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS OF AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE TO PRACTICE NURSING, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAY REQUIRE SUCH CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS IN CONNECTION WITH AN INVESTIGATION OR DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING OF A LICENSEE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT WRITING A DISHONORED CHECK IS NOT EVIDENCE OF MORAL

TURPITUDE FOR PURPOSES OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR DISQUALIFICATION FOR LICENSURE IF PROSECUTION OF THE OFFENSE WAS DISMISSED DUE TO PROOF OF PAYMENT OF RESTITUTION; AND BY ADDING SECTION 40-33-39 SO AS TO REQUIRE A LICENSED NURSE TO WEAR AN IDENTIFICATION BADGE BEARING THE NURSE’S FIRST OR LAST NAME, OR BOTH, AND TITLE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

Criminal records checks may be required for licensure; dismissed prosecution for writing a dishonored check is not an act of moral turpitude
SECTION 1. Chapter 33, Title 40 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 40-33-25. (A) In addition to other requirements established by law and for the purpose of determining an applicant’s eligibility for licensure to practice nursing, the department may require a state criminal records check, supported by fingerprints, by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, and a national criminal records check, supported by fingerprints, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The results of these criminal records checks must be reported to the department. The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division is authorized to retain the fingerprints for certification purposes and for notification of the department regarding criminal charges. Costs of conducting a criminal history background check must be borne by the applicant. The department shall keep information received pursuant to this section confidential, except

Continued on page 12

BOARD VACANCIES



There are currently three vacancies on the Board of Nursing. Members serve terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualify. Board members must be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

When appointing members to the Board of Nursing, the governor will give consideration to include a diverse representation of principal areas of nursing including, but not limited to, hospital, acute care, advanced practice, community health, and nursing education. Registered nurse and licensed practical nurse members must be licensed in South Carolina, must be employed in nursing,

must have at least three years of practice in their respective professions immediately preceding their appointment, and shall reside in the district they represent.

The first vacancy on the Board is for the Registered Nurse (RN) representative from Congressional District 4. The second vacancy is for the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) representative for Region I. Region I includes Congressional Districts 1, 2, and 3. There is also a vacancy for a lay member. Lay members represent the public at large as a consumer of nursing services and may not be licensed or employed as a health care provider. No board member may serve as an officer of a professional health-

related state association.

An individual, group, or association may nominate qualified persons and submit them to the governor for consideration. Vacancies must be filled for the unexpired portion of a term by appointment of the governor. If you are interested or someone you know is interested in one of these positions on the Board of Nursing, they should submit a letter of request, along with a resume or curriculum vitae, to Boards and Commissions, Governor's Office, Post Office Box 11829, Columbia, SC 29211. If you are not sure of your congressional district, go to http://www.scvotes.org/check_your_voter_registration.

ATTENTION

It is unlawful for any Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) to write a prescription for a friend or family member that a nurse-patient relationship has not been established and in the absence of a medical file. This activity could result in disciplinary action by the Board of Nursing.

that information relied upon in denying licensure may be disclosed as may be necessary to support the administrative action.

(B) In an investigation or disciplinary proceeding concerning a licensee, the department may require a state criminal records check, supported by fingerprints, by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, and a national criminal records check, supported by fingerprints, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The results of these criminal records checks must be reported to the department. The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division is authorized to retain the fingerprints for certification purposes and for notification of the department regarding criminal charges. Costs of conducting

a criminal history background check must be borne by the department and may be recovered as administrative costs associated with an investigation or hearing pursuant to this chapter unless ordered by the board as a cost in a disciplinary proceeding.

The department shall keep information received pursuant to this section confidential, except that information relied upon in an administrative action may be disclosed as may be necessary to support the administrative action.

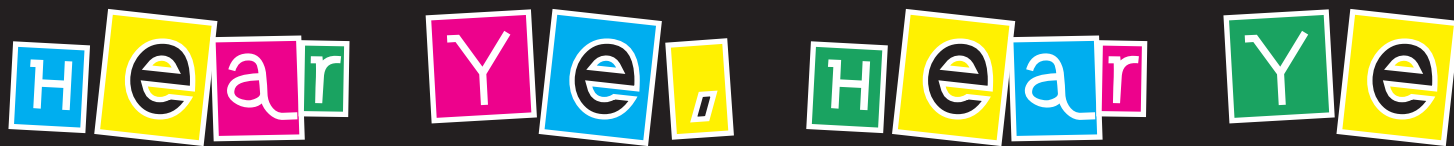
(C) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or any other provision of law, the dismissal of a prosecution of a fraudulent intent in drawing a dishonored check case by reason of want of prosecution or proof of payment of restitution and

administrative costs must not be used as evidence of an act of moral turpitude for disciplinary purposes or for the purposes of disqualifying a person seeking licensure or renewal of licensure pursuant to this chapter.”

Identification badges

SECTION 2. Chapter 33, Title 40 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 40-33-39. A licensed nurse must clearly identify himself or herself as officially licensed by the board. A licensed nurse shall wear a clearly legible identification badge or other adornment at least one inch by three inches in size bearing the nurse’s first or last name, or both, and title as officially licensed.”



Stay Current

Come join us. A list of upcoming board and committee meeting dates can be found in all issues of the Palmetto Nurse as well as under Board Information on our Web site, www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing. We will now be posting the meeting agendas for the Board, Advanced Practice Committee, Advisory Committee on Nursing and the Nursing Practice and Standards Committee on the Web site under Board News for your convenience.

ATTENTION ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES

- Are you licensed as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN)?
- Have you renewed your certification?
- Did you know that the Board does not automatically receive notification when you renew your certification?
- Did you know that it is the licensee's responsibility to provide the Board with a copy of their current certification / recertification?

If you have recently become certified, recertified or renewed your certification, please mail a copy of your current certification card to LLR-Board of Nursing, Attn: Advanced Practice Licensure, P. O. Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211.

HAVE YOU MOVED?



Section 40-33-38 (C) of the South Carolina Nurse Practice Act requires that all licensees notify the Board in writing within 15 days of an address change. So that you do not incur disciplinary action or miss important time sensitive information such as your renewal notice and audit notice or other important licensure information, please be sure to notify the Board immediately whenever you change addresses. You may change your address on-line utilizing the address change form under Online Services found on our Web site: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/.

ATTENTION CHECK WRITERS!!!

The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation – Board of Nursing - gladly accepts your checks.

When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us to use information from the check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account, or to process the payment as a check transaction.

You authorize us to collect a fee through electronic fund transfer from your account if your payment is returned unpaid.

Disciplinary Actions

POSTED IN APRIL 2008

POSTED IN MAY 2008

POSTED IN JUNE 2008

Addison, Lavetta M. LPN

Anderson, Amy Louise RN

Black, Karen LPN

Anderson, Amy Louise RN

Banks, Michelle N LPN

Brown, Rosilyn Lydia, LPN

Barbie Kinard Brandt, RN

Dobscha, Mary Prichard RN

Brown, Amy Christie RN

Barron, Jessica Leanne RN

Fisher, Carolyn S. RN

Carraway, Wanda Kay RN

Blanton, Sheila Elizabeth B LPN -

Kreighbaum, Lori Ann LPN

Carter, Dawn Michelle RN

Voluntary Surrender

Mahaffey, Kelly M. LPN

Cason, Tiara Irene RN

Bracken, Mark E. RN

Ochoa, Ashley D. RN

Choberka, Paul Michael LPN

Bruton, Kimberly Rudy RN

Perry, Amy Renell RN

Drew, Jacqueline S. LPN

Cox, Wanda W. RN

Poston, Trevor Joel Edward RN

Frank, Collene M., RN

Gaston, Burnett H. RN

Sandlin, Tammy W. RN

Gamble, Amy Stewart LPN

Gathers, Yvette R. RN

Sinclair, Angela A. RN

Gillespie, Loma Amanda RN

Gilmore, Diane Denise LPN

Smith, Amy L RN

Gowan, Brian Vincent LPN

Haggard, Kevin Christopher RN

Spires, Emily Suzette RN

Holifield, Patricia Ann RN

Helms, Robert M. RN

Stinsman, Johnna Cecilia RN

Holivay, Candis Meredith RN

Lipscomb, Melissa J. LPN

Tisale, Edna L. RN

Hrncir, Cheryl S. RN

Melissa Dawn Hanlin, RN

Vermilling, Tammy L. LPN

Inman, Kellie Annette RN

Morgan, Dorothy Ann LPN

West, Jacqueline Ann RN

Jacques, Kelly E. RN

Phyllis Ann Honeycutt, LPN

Wilkerson, Lacreteria Terry LPN

Johnson, Jeni Lea RN

Quick, Michael I. RN

Kerton, Kandi Erickson RN

Rodgers, Tina C. RN

Littlejohn, Gracelyn P. RN

Shamlin, Katherine Grace LPN

Massey, Christy Leigh RN

Young, Jamekia K. RN

May, Cynthia A RN

Pauley, Monique Renee RN

Pittman, Alicia RN

Powers, Catherine Kennedy RN

Schaffer, Karen D. LPN

Smith, Charlsie G. RN

Smith, Patricia S. APN

Todd, Kimberly G. RN

Tuohy, Kathleen Elizabeth RN

Watts, Regina Lee S. RN

Wick, Gayle Elizabeth LPN

Wilber, Stephanie Regina LPN

Willard, Laura H. RN

Woodside, Kathy R. RN

Disciplinary actions taken by the South Carolina Board of Nursing are reported to the NURSIS national nursing database, which is maintained by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and is the verification system utilized by the Board. Disciplinary actions are also reported to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank (HIPDB), which is maintained by the federal government. Public disciplinary actions may be viewed on our Web site under Disciplinary Actions.

BOARD and COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2008

BOARD OF NURSING MEETINGS

September 25-26, 2008

November 20-21, 2008

ADVANCED PRACTICE COMMITTEE (APC)

November 7, 2008

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NURSING (ACON)

August 26, 2008

October 21, 2008

December 2, 2008

NURSING PRACTICE AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (NPSC)

August 21, 2008

October 16, 2008

December 18, 2008



TOOLS OF THE TRADE

When was the last time you went on the Board's Web site? We recommend that all nurses visit our Web site (www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/) at least monthly for up-to-date information on nursing licensure.

When a new advisory opinion is issued or a current advisory opinion revised, it is updated on our Web site within two weeks. The Competency Requirement, Competency Requirement Criteria, which includes continuing education contact hours, Licensure information, Advisory Opinions, Position Statements, and the Nurse Practice Act are just a few of the valuable tools and information you will find on the Web site.

The Advisory Opinions, Position Statements, and the Nurse Practice Act are located under Laws/Policies. The Competency Requirement and Competency Requirement Criteria, which includes continuing education contact hours, are located under Licensure.

We hope that you will find this information useful in your nursing practice.

You can make a difference!

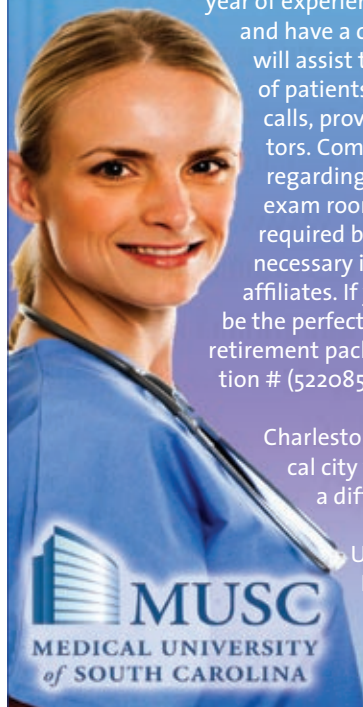
REGISTERED NURSE

University Medical Associates, an affiliate of The Medical University of South Carolina located in Charleston, SC has an immediate need for a Registered Nurse to work for The Bone and Joint facility. This position will work in the Endocrinology area. Must have one year of experience working as a RN, eligible to practice nursing in S.C. and have a current BLS. Certification in IV therapy is also needed. RN will assist the physician with the clinical assessment & treatment of patients. General Duties to include: Triage patient's phone calls, provide appropriate nursing advice to patients & guarantors. Communicate & document pertinent patient information regarding lab results, patient phone calls & referrals. Maintain exam rooms supplies & equipment, instruments & cleanliness as required by OSHA and UMA. Perform any other duties as deemed necessary in contributing to the quality of efficiency of UMA or its affiliates. If you are tired of working nights and weekends this could be the perfect opportunity for you! UMA offers an excellent benefit & retirement package. What are you waiting for? Apply Today! Requisition # (522085)

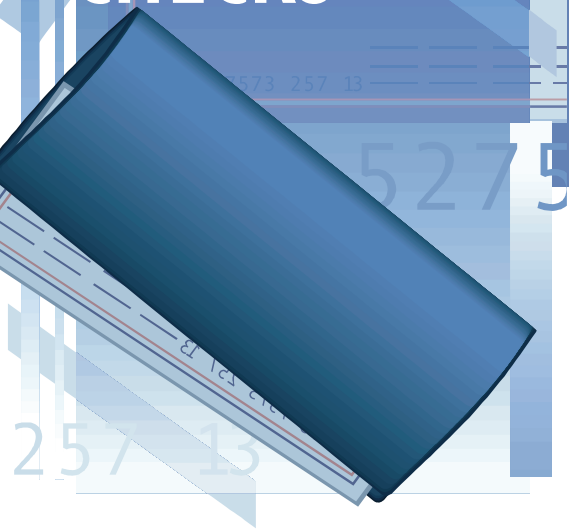
Charleston, SC is a great area to live & work. Come live in a historical city with beautiful beaches & Southern living. You can make a difference!

University Medical Associates Department of Human Resources
1180 Sam Rittenberg Blvd, Suite 305
Charleston, SC 29407

EOE



RETURNED CHECKS



When submitting any fees to the Board of Nursing, please be certain there are sufficient funds in your account to cover your check and that the check has cleared before closing any account. Section 40-1-50(G) of the South Carolina Code of Laws states that a license shall be suspended if a fee payment is made by a check that is subsequently returned by the financial institution unpaid and is not made good within 10 days of official notification. This suspension is exempt from the Administrative Procedures Act. Unpaid checks constitute a non-payment of license fees. Section 40-33-38 (C) of the South Carolina Code of Laws (Nurse Practice Act) requires that all licensees notify the Board in writing within 15 days of any address change. When a check is returned, replacement funds plus the returned check fee allowed by law will be charged.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT...

House Bill 5012 passed this year. Criminal background checks are scheduled to begin in January 2009. More information will be provided by the Office of Licensure and Compliance in future issues of the Palmetto Nurse.



COMPETENCY AUDITS CONTINUE

The Board continues to perform competency audits. Nurses chosen for the audit will be sent a certified letter requesting submission of continued competency documentation pursuant to §40-33-40(C) of the Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina (Nurse Practice Act). Names are chosen randomly by the computer system. Your name may be selected even if you were chosen in the last audit. A licensee must maintain all documented evidence of compliance for at least four years.

In accordance with the Nurse Practice Act, registered nurses (RN) and licensed practical nurses (LPN) will have five days to provide their documents. Your chosen competency must have been completed and documented between May 1, 2006, and April 30, 2008.

Advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) have 72 hours pursuant to §40-33-34(D)(2) to provide the required documents. Section 40-33-34 also lists the documents required for APRNs.

Failure to provide satisfactory documented evidence of compliance within the prescribed time may result in the immediate temporary suspension or cancellation of the license pending compliance with all requirements for licensure and until order of the Board.

LLR Board of Nursing
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